

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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WASHINGTON D.C., DMV EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO NEARLY FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR LICENSE SCHEME INVOLVING 900 ALIENS

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that GWENDOLYNN DEAN, a former employee of the Washington, D.C., Department of Motor Vehicles, was sentenced today before United States District Judge KIMBA M. WOOD to 57 months in prison for her role in a conspiracy to fraudulently obtain identification documents for illegal aliens, specifically Washington, D.C., driver's licenses.

As part of the scheme alleged in the Indictment DEAN, and her co-conspirators, Rafet Ozoglu, a/k/a "Mehmet Ak," and Mustafa Ozsusamlar, a/k/a "Mustafa Ozcan," a/k/a "Missta Oscane," allegedly transported aliens from the New York area to Washington, D.C., in order to unlawfully obtain the driver's licenses by bribing DEAN to process the driver's license applications without the required proof of identity.

DEAN, 49, of Washington, D.C., pled guilty to two

counts of identification document fraud on March 10, 2003.

According to the Indictment, throughout the two-and-a-half year course of the conspiracy, Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar allegedly helped their co-conspirators fraudulently obtain more than 900 Washington, D.C., driver's licenses by bribing DEAN.

Approximately 75 of the individuals later exchanged their fraudulently obtained Washington, D.C., driver's licenses for New York driver's licenses.

According to the Indictment, and Criminal Complaints previously filed in the case, DEAN was a window clerk with the Washington, D.C., Department of Motor Vehicles ("DC DMV"). From January 2000 through June 2002, Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar allegedly solicited co-conspirators needed driver's licenses (the "Clients") and transported their Clients from New York to Washington, D.C. ("DC"). Most of the Clients were of Middle Eastern, South Asian or Russian descent and many were illegal aliens.

Aa alleged in the Indictment, once in Washington,
Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators, would go to the
DC DMV office and DEAN's window. At the window, DEAN processed
the Clients' applications, despite the absence of proof of name
and date of birth, Social Security number, and residence, in
exchange for cash payments from Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their
co-conspirators. After each Client obtained a valid DC driver's
license, Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators

allegedly drove drive the Clients back to the New York area, it was charged.

According to the Indictment, the Clients allegedly each paid Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators approximately \$1,500 for this service.

Mr. COMEY praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in investigating this case.

Mr. COMEY said the investigation is continuing.

The trial of Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar is scheduled to begin on January 20, 2004, before Judge WOOD.

Assistant United States Attorney ALEXANDER H. SOUTHWELL is in charge of the prosecution.

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